

# RUMORED SEPARATION OF PORTUGUESE COUNT AND RICH WIFE SETS THE GOSSIPS OF TWO CONTINENTS TALKING AGAIN

## "MATCHMAKERS" ACCOUNT IS PUBLISHED IN DETAIL

First of Its Kind Known in Law, Charges \$500 for  
One Hundred Love Letters, and \$100 for  
"Proposal (Extra)."

(Continued from Sixth Page.)

merally and personally—but was exactly like a little child and talked to me like a boy would to his mother.

Resolved to Help,  
Declares Mrs. Ernest.

"He told me that he wanted to marry into a wealthy family and he didn't care what family it was—as long as it had the money. Well, I resolved not to let anybody know he wasn't a count until we could get him a title. I took him down to Marshall Field's the first thing, and bought him some decent clothes. I rigged him out from top to toe and he looked very decent. He was a swarthy chap with plumpness and poise and wasn't at all bad looking. He was also artistic a bit and had an air about him. Well, the first thing I got a young fellow interested in him.

"No, I won't tell her name, but she wanted a title as much as the count wanted money. I fixed the thing up, I thought, but Ribeiro disgusted me with his absolute stupidity and the outrageous things that he did that I got conscience stricken and thought it would be a shame to tie a beautiful girl up with him, and broke matters off before they got started too far.

"I scolded an older woman would be the mate for Ribeiro. Mrs. Stetson was about ten years his senior and when they were thrown together I helped out all I could. I didn't introduce them, oh, not that's a mistake. But I did fix matters with Mrs. Bishop so that she brought them together and introduced them. In the meantime I got the title fixed up all right so that he could receive it later. It was only eight months after Mr. Stetson died that they met, too. At first the count didn't go along like an American fellow would. Of course, when he wrote everything was all right because I wrote every blessed letter that he ever wrote to her.

"Well, matters got along to the point where the count wanted to propose, but was afraid to do it in person, and wanted a written one. I wrote that, too, just the same as I wrote everything else that came from him. I argued every objection that Mrs. Stetson brought forth, and, after two years' solid, hard work, succeeded, and they were married.

"I used my influence to have him made a count, and got him the position as Portuguese consul here at Chicago. I arranged for the money that was to pay for the title, \$500 to have it registered, and \$3,000 in installments, the price of the title.

"I placed him in the way of a total of \$7,000. Eventually his demands became so heavy that I was temporarily unable to meet them, and my husband and I took him to our country home, where he was a guest for ten days. When Dr. Ernest made some collections he turned \$300 over to the count and sent him back to Chicago. That was while he was still courting Mrs. Stetson.

"After I bought him a new outfit at Marshall Field's and sent him to Philadelphia to meet his bride, he told me that Mrs. Stetson probably would give Mrs. Bishop \$2,000 and then forget about her. I was then suspicious that perhaps I was then treated in similar manner. I will prove every step in his success was made at my advice.

"And he posed as a great sculptor. That's another mistake. He points to the 'Vase de Gamme' in his piece de resistance in front of the studio, as his model, but it is not. He purchased it in Paris. Just wait!

"He owes me fully \$10,000, and most of it was for advances. No, I cannot state whether I arranged the marriage on a contingent fee or not. I have all the necessary letters and reputable witnesses to prove my claim.

"I did not shout my plans from the housetops, and I was not to blame for the story gaining currency; but since he used the term 'blackmail,' I'll tell everything. It was a simple business proposition all through.

"The count immediately ridiculed Mrs. Ernest's claim. He assailed her veracity, denied every charge that she made and fought to the uttermost. Undaunted, Mrs. Ernest came back at him. Fortified by her husband's warning, she threatened to knock the count into a cocked hat, she came to Philadelphia, engaged Henry J. Scott as counsel, and told him to go ahead and bring suit when she gave the word. To clinch her demands upon the count, she filed a bill of particulars, an itemized bill, which can readily be designated as the price of an international wedding in American dollars.

Bill Given  
Unique In Particulars.

Not only because this document is unique, but because of the fact that it is perhaps one of the first of its nature it is printed in full below:

To 100 love letters, at \$5.00 each..... \$500  
To one proposal (extra)..... 100  
To sum due if count is accepted..... 100  
To introducing count to wealthy widow..... 1,000  
To aiding him to secure title..... 1,000  
To money cable to count..... 500  
To sums advanced to count to attend King Alfonso's wedding..... 1,000  
To money advanced for wearing apparel..... 100  
To introducing count to society..... 1,000  
To schooling count in conversation and conduct..... 1,000  
To additional sums advanced..... 2,500  
Total..... 10,000

Furious beyond bounds at this concrete expression of the charges of Mrs. Ernest, Count Eulalia denounced her as a blackmailer. She made a spirited reply, and the battle of matrimony and its diversified agencies went on.

The count, safe in Europe, made the wires sizzle with his Latin-esque rejoinder to Mrs. Ernest's contentions, and both engaged counsel to spar toward a settlement.

Henry J. Scott is the counsel for Mrs. Ernest. He sizes up the situation as

follows: He expects a settlement—albeit it has been rumored one has already been made—but more of that anon when the story reaches that point in its historical narrative. Dealing with his client's claims, the attorney says: "The charge has been made that Mrs. Ernest is a blackmailer. It comes from those who are with Count and Countess Santa Eulalia. If they really believe what they say, let the count come forward. We will hale him into court, and he will then have an opportunity to demonstrate how much of a blackmailer my client is.

"Every penny of Mrs. Ernest's claim is just, and we will collect the whole with interest," he continued. "Those who represent Eulalia, as he calls himself, and his wife are bluffing when they talk of blackmail. Why don't they give us a chance to get at the count with legal service of our suit? No blackmailer would dare to go into court with a bogus claim. The criminal law and the penalties are too near and too threatening to permit any sane person to take a chance with a blackmail suit.

"If there is any truth in this charge of blackmail, it is singular that it did not appear then. Why did not the Eulalias call in the police and turn Mrs. Ernest over to them as a blackmailer when she went to the count for her money? I will tell you; because they knew the claim was just and that any legal action on their part would be followed by a suit for damages on the ground of 'false arrest.'

"We have been very patient with the count. He got his bride and his allowance. He has not paid back the money that enabled him to win both. He was successful solely because of services rendered by Mrs. Ernest. He now refuses to pay for this service.

Claims Brought  
Openly Into Court.

"What are we to do? Shall we pocket our loss and say nothing about it, or shall we bring our claim openly into court as the law provides? Evidently, we are expected to lose and be silent.

"Let me call to your attention and to the attention of the public the fact that the Eulalias have settled a similar claim to that made by Mrs. Ernest for virtually the entire amount of the demand. I refer to the claim of Germano Courge, who, like Mrs. Ernest, and this Gueriz Ribeiro in his quest for a wife and a fortune.

### SOCIAL LEADERSHIP FOR COUNTRY GIRL

Sarah Elizabeth Shindler, a simple country girl, meets John B. Stetson, millionaire, and twice a widower.

The wedding of the two follows several months later, and at Stetson's death she is left the bulk of a fortune of \$7,000,000.

As a leader of Chicago society, Mrs. John B. Stetson No. 3 is introduced to Count Eulalia, Portuguese consul at the city on the lakes.

Eight months after Stetson's death she becomes the Countess Eulalia, and during the honeymoon in Portugal the former laughter of a Vincennes, Ind., farmer is presented at court.

The two travel extensively in European capitals, and the little god Cupid holds full sway, until society circles in Chicago, Philadelphia, and Florida cities are set agog with rumors that the two have separated.

The Countess Eulalia returns to her large estates in Florida, where she is content to remain almost alone, in company only with her adopted daughter, following sensational charges of Mrs. Josephine F. Ernest that the latter made the match between the count and Mrs. Stetson, under peculiar business agreements.

"Mrs. Ernest came to me with her claim last summer. It was duly itemized. She discussed all its details freely.

"Of the total demand for \$10,000, a claim of \$6,000 is set down as being for money advanced to Gueriz Ribeiro, as the count was then known. It is my impression that he did not acquire his title Count Santa Eulalia until about two years ago.

"Mrs. Ernest told me she met this Portuguese gentleman in St. Louis during the progress of the World's Fair. They moved in the same set, if that term may be used, and became very friendly. I believe Mr. Courge was one of the set.

"She came to Philadelphia for the purpose of getting the money due her. She called on Count Santa Eulalia and was refused. I believe she also saw the countess."

### OTHER FORCES.

THIS dynamic force that seemed to exercise such a blasting strength upon the romance which had been woven about count and widow was not the only source of trouble for Santa Eulalia. Mrs. Ernest had an able though independent ally, who might be termed an unconscious coadjutor. He was none other than Germano Courge, the friend of the days when fortune first began to trip toward the Ribeiro door.

Incensed because, as he asserted, the count in his good fortune failed to pay the debts he had contracted through the free use of the Courge purse, the other sculptor set forth his claim and demands for money. He didn't deal with the matter in the phlegmatic manner of an American, not Courge.

"Bah," said he a day or two ago, "Bah, him a count. He is as much of a count as he is a sculptor. He owes me \$3,000 and he paid me back in drivel till I collected \$500 in about that number of years. Finally he settled, and—his law upon him and he settled. He is, no much account any way."

Here the indignant sculptor broke into a gust of laughter. His sides shook and he with difficulty recovered his customary demeanor and poise.

How the money was collected for Courge is best told by his attorney, Frederick A. Sobernheimer.

"I was brought into the complicated affair," he said, "by a letter from William K. Pattison, a prominent member of the Chicago bar, asking me to take care of the Philadelphia end of Mr. Courge's claim."

"I am not at liberty to discuss the claim in detail. It is sufficient to say that it was for a large amount and that it consisted of items of borrowed money and of claims for certain services.

"I wrote to the count, addressing the letter to St. Ido, the Stetson place on York road. In due course I received a letter from Mr. Larzelere, of Norristown, stating that he was counsel for Count Santa Eulalia. That was the beginning of negotiations.

At first there was an absolute denial of the validity of our claim, just as there now is a denial of the justice of Mrs. Ernest's claim. There was a declaration that the money demanded by Mr. Courge would not be paid, not one penny of it.

### Action Grows Apace In Tangle.

Action grew apace in the tangle between the noble and his feminine Cyranos. Count Santa Eulalia retained Nicholas H. Larzelere, of Norristown, as his counsel, and told him to fight. How-

### SOME OF THE PECULIAR ALLEGATIONS MADE BY MRS. JOSEPHINE F. ERNEST

Mrs. Josephine F. Ernest startles Chicago society several months after the marriage of Mrs. Stetson to Count Eulalia by claiming she arranged the match premeditatedly.

Mrs. Ernest makes the assertion that she not only furnished the count with money to purchase clothes that he might "enter society," but that she wrote the love letters for him that resulted in his becoming master of the Stetson millions.

In her "bill of particulars" Mrs. Ernest alleges that she "discovered" Ribeiro, as the count was first known, acceded to his alleged request that she "find him an heiress," virtually bought him the title of count, and coached him in social conventions, that he might win the love and hand of Mrs. Stetson.

In the suit to recover \$10,000 which Mrs. Ernest is about to file she says she advanced him a sum approximating \$5,000, and asks that she be paid \$500 for 100 love letters she claims to have written, \$100 for one proposal, \$1,000 for introducing the count to Mrs. Stetson, and \$1,000 for "schooling the count in conversation and conduct."

ever, this advice was seemingly unheeded in the case of Courge, but the attorney declares that the story told by Mrs. Ernest is a tissue of falsehoods and that the issue will be fought in the courts.

However, the suit has not been formally entered as yet, and perhaps there is a reason for that in the flying visit of the countess to Chicago in the early part of the present month.

To return to the Eulalias. After living within the atmosphere of the court for some months, traveling about the Continent and enjoying to the fullest measure those pleasures the intelligent use of money can bring, suddenly there came a shift in the arrangements. Unaccompanied by the count, Mrs. Stetson came home ostensibly to pass the Christmas holidays. She readily gave out the information that the count was in Europe on matters

### SAYS SHE LOANED NOBLEMAN MONEY

Wife of Physician Follows  
Declaration by Filing  
Suit for \$10,000.

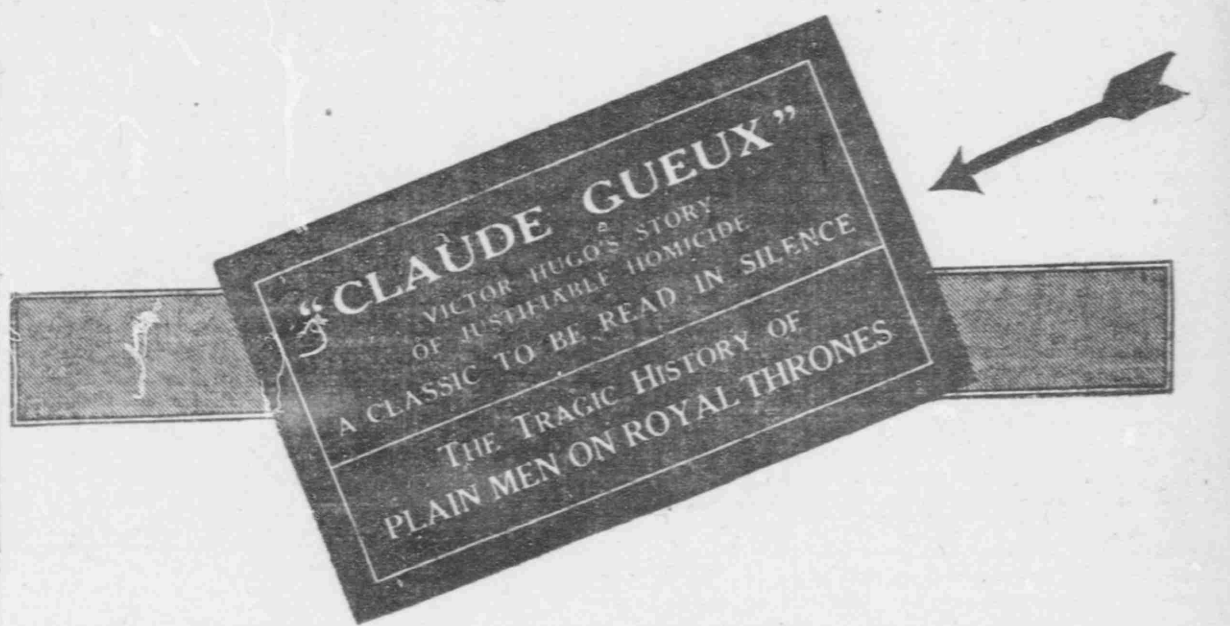
Countess Santa Eulalia being registered as "Miss Cummings."

She remained there several days, protesting meanwhile to the newspaper men of the Windy City the absurdity of attempting to construct a possible divorce out of the ground-work of the count's absence. However, she did see Mrs. Ernest. Strangely enough coincidentally with the visit of the countess comes a change of residence on the part of the Ernests. Previous to that time they had been occupying an apartment on Michigan avenue.

Now they are situated in a house which they recently purchased, 348 Greenwood avenue, in the growing suburbs in the southern section of the city.

These coincidences, the visit of the countess and the Ernest purchase of property gave immediate rise to the belief that the claim of Mrs. Ernest had been settled, and that the failure of the count to come here with his wife was due to his dislike of being enmeshed in the web of a lawsuit with the woman who claims to be the feminine Cyranos to his Christina.

But, notwithstanding emphatic denials, despite the continued statements from the countess that serenely reigns within her domestic circle, rumor, the whispering jade, still breathes the possibility that another international romance has come a cropper.



WHEN you are tired—when you want to stretch out in an easy chair and read something NEW—when the commonplace run of magazine reading offers nothing that you have not already known about—  
**Then it is high time you became a Scrap Book reader!**

"Claude Gueux" and "Plain Men on Royal Thrones" are only two out of the sixty-nine distinct features in March.

You can read about everything, from the fourth dimension ("Concerning the Fourth Dimension") to the latest frivolity that the Great White Way offers the jaded mind ("Actor Chat" by The Dramatic Critic's Wife).

There are 160 pages and 91 illustrations—every one in colors. This, very briefly, describes the March issue of America's most unusual magazine.

The Scrap Book is 10 cents a copy, or \$1.00 by the year. Subscriptions may be sent through your newsdealer or directly to this office. It is a magazine that is NEW clear through. There isn't an old idea in it—except the delightful literary gems of bygone days which it searches out and reprints for the present generation.

**The Frank A. Munsey Company**  
175 Fifth Avenue, NEW YORK CITY

## A CLEARANCE SALE Rugs—Carpets—Linoleum Door Mats—Hassocks Cost Not Considered

The Broken Lots Must Go.

Take Note of These Prices.

One lot Printed Linoleums; sizes 3x3 ft.; regular price 60c; special..... **25c**

One lot Inlaid Linoleums; size 3x3 ft. Regular price, \$1.25. Sale price..... **50c**

One lot Inlaid Linoleum samples; size 3x4 ft. 6 in. Regular price, \$1.50. Sale price..... **60c**

One lot Inlaid Linoleums; size 3x6 ft. Regularly \$3.00..... **\$1.25**

600 yds. remnant Inlaid and Printed Linoleum; from 3 to 10 yds.; to be sold at less than cost prices, from 25c yd. up to 75c yd.

Rubber Door Mats: 18x30 in. Regular price \$1.00. Sale price..... **79c**

One lot Rubber Cuspidor Mats. Regular price 50c. Sale price..... **19c**

One lot of LEATHER DOOR MATS, flexible fold-up.

Size 16x30. Reg. \$1.25. Sale price **39c**

Size 20x34. Reg. \$1.40. Sale price **59c**

Size 23x40. Reg. \$1.80. Sale price **79c**

One lot of Children's Hassocks..... **15c**

One lot of large size Hassocks. Reg. 50c. Sale price, each..... **25c**

4 Granite Art Squares, 7.6x9. Reg. price \$3.50. Sale price..... **\$1.65**

3 Granite Art Squares, 9x10. Reg. price \$4.50. Sale price..... **\$2.25**

1 lot of Napier Matting samples; make good door mats; worth \$1.00 each. Sale price, each..... **29c**

1 lot Cocoa Matting Samples; some with rubber ends; worth \$1.50 each. Sale price, each..... **59c**

1,000 sample lengths of Wilton, Axminster, Velvet, Brussels and Ingrains; grades of carpet that sold at 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$3.00 per yard; in lengths from 3, 1, 1 and 2 yds.

Lot No. 1.	25c each
Lot No. 2.	35c each
Lot No. 3.	45c each
Lot No. 4.	65c each
Lot No. 5.	75c each
Lot No. 6.	85c each
Lot No. 7.	\$1.00 each
Lot No. 8.	\$1.10 each
Lot No. 9.	\$1.25 each
Lot No. 10.	\$1.35 each
Lot No. 11.	\$1.45 each

### Rug Bargains

Broken lots after stock taking; some slightly soiled.

One lot of all wool Kensington Art Rugs, suitable for bedrooms, dining rooms, libraries and parlors, in a variety of pretty patterns:

	Reg. Price.	Sale Price.
5 Kens. Art Rugs, 7.6x9 ft.	\$6.25	\$3.90
4 Kens. Art Rugs, 7.6x12 ft.	\$8.25	\$5.50
12 Kens. Art Rugs, 9x9 ft.	\$8.50	\$4.95
13 Kens. Art Rugs, 9x12 ft.	\$10.00	\$6.50
11 Kens. Art Rugs, 10.6x12 ft.	\$11.50	\$7.95
2 Kens. Art Rugs, 9x15 ft.	\$12.50	\$8.75
15 Kens. Art Rugs, 12x12 ft.	\$13.50	\$8.65
14 Kens. Art Rugs, 12x13.6 ft.	\$15.00	\$9.75
18 Kens. Art Rugs, 12x15 ft.	\$18.00	\$11.75

One lot of Agra Art Rugs; some slightly soiled; a good variety; guaranteed wool rugs; pretty Rugs for any room in the house.

	Reg. Price.	Sale Price.
5 Agra Art Rugs, 7.6x9 ft.	\$8.50	\$5.25
3 Agra Art Rugs, 9x10.6 ft.	\$12.50	\$6.95
1 Agra Art Rug, 9x9 ft.	\$9.00	\$6.50
9 Agra Art Rugs, 9x12 ft.	\$13.50	\$8.50
4 Agra Art Rugs, 10.6x12 ft.	\$15.00	\$10.95
5 Agra Art Rugs, 10.6x13.6 ft.	\$16.00	\$9.95

Founded 1861. **W. B. Moses & Sons** F Street, Cor. 11th.

